

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ARA-06 SAM-01 AID-05

OMB-01 DHA-02 /085 W

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O R 161515Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6558

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

USLIAISON OFFICE PEKING

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 0094

E.9. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, OAU

SUBJECT: CAR PRESIDENT BOKASSA ASSAILS SOVIETS, SUPPORTS THE US

REF: A. STATE 10866 (NOTAL) B. STATE 008555

1. SUMMARY. IN LENGTHY, HARD-HITTING STATEMENT ON RETURN TO
BANGUI JANUARY 14 FROM

SPECIAL ADDIS OAU SUMMIT ON ANGOLA,

PRESIDENT BOKASSA CALLED FOR CEASE-FIRE IN ANGOLA, WITHDRAWAL
OF FOREIGN TROOPS AND CESSATION OF ARMS DELIVERIES. BOKASSA
EXPLICITLY CONDEMNED SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA
IN STRONGEST LANGUAGE HE HAS USED UP TO NOW. PRESIDENT
EXPLAINED SOUTH AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA IN TERMS OF
REACTION TO VISIBLE COMMUNIST THREAT. HE DEPLORED IDEOLOGICAL
DIVISIONS WHICH HAD PREVENTED OAU FROM ARRIVING AT DECISION
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WHICH MIGHT HAVE HELPED RESTORE PEACE AND LEAD TO

FORMATION OF NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT. BOKASSA CONCLUDED BY PRAISING UNITED STATES ALONG WITH FRANCE AND SEVERAL OTHER LIKE-MINDED COUNTRIES FOR DEVOTING THEIR RESOURCES TO PROJECTS OF HUMANITARIAN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE RATHER THAN RESORTING TO MASSIVE MILITARY ASSISTANCE AS SOVIETS HAD DONE. END SUMMARY.

2. BOKASSA, CLEARLY DISAPPOINTED BY MEAGER RESULTS OF SPECIAL OAU SUMMIT ON ANGOLA, COUNSELLED ANGOLAN PEOPLE IN NATIONAL RADIO ADDRESS JANUARY 14, TO "CEASE FIGHTING".

3. DEPLORING IDEOLOGICAL DIVISIONS WHICH HAD PRECLUDED OAU SOLUTION TO ANGOLAN ISSUE AT ADDIS BOKASSA PAID "LIVELY HOMAGE TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA FOR HER EXEMPLARY CONDUCT IN THIS AFFAIR. THEY HAVE NOT INTERFERED IN THE ANGOLAN PROBLEM".

4. BOKASSA FOLLOWED HIS PRC PRAISE WITH STATEMENT ASSAILING SOVIET BEHAVIOR IN ANGOLA QUESTION. BOKASSA SAID "MPLA HAS RECEIVED MASSIVE SOVIET ARMAMENTS WHICH ARE A VERY IMPORTANT FACTOR AND 10,000 CUBAN TROOPS ARE IN ANGOLA FIGHTING ON THE MPLA'S SIDE. "SOVIET ARMS ARE CAUSING ATROCITIES AND WIDE-SCALE LOSS OF LIFE IN ANGOLA".

5. BOKASSA SAID SOUTH AFRICA IS FIGHTING WITH FNLA/UNITA BECAUSE "SHE FEARS THE IMPLANTATION OF COMMUNISM IN ANGOLA BY THE SOVIET UNION".

6. BOKASSA SAID HE THOUGH THAT "IF A CEASE-FIRE IS TO BE ARRIVED AT IN ANGOLA, IT WILL FIRST BE NECESSARY TO STOP SHIPMENT OF ARMAMENTS TO WARRING FACTIONS. THIS MUST BE OUR ESSENTIAL GOAL AS EACH DAY THOUSANDS ARE DYING. WE MUST PUT AN END TO HIS MASSACRE." BOKASSA SAID "WHAT WE ARE WITNESSING IS A LACK OF THAT HUMANITY WHICH HIS HOLINESS POPE PAUL VI ASKS EACH TO WORK FOR IN ORDER THAT PEACE MAY REIGN ON EARTH. AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN PEOPLE I PREFER PEACE TO WAR."

7. PRESIDENT BOKASSA URGED SOVIETS TO ABANDON MASSIVE MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN ANGOLA AND AFRICA IN GENERAL.
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IN FAVOR OF AN ECONOMIC/HUMANITARIAN CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT OF POOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES. IN THIS CONTEXT HE SINGLED OUT FOR CONSIDERABLE PRAISE THE AID EFFORTS IN THE CAR OF THE UNITED STATES, FRANCE, YUGOSLAVIA AND SOUTH KOREA AS WELL AS MULTI-NATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS IMF, IBRD AND THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. AMONG US PROJECTS HE MENTIONED THE RECENTLY SIGNED HALF-MILLION DOLLAR SAHEL-FUNDED WELLS PROJECT, SEVERAL SELF-

HELP PROJECTS, AND ONE TO BE FUNDED BY SPECIAL POPULATION ACTIVITY (SPA) FUNDS. IN PARTICULAR, BOKASSA SAID, THE AMERICAN GEOLOGICAL OBSERVATORY SATELLITE HAD BROUGHT THE CAR "THE MARVELLOUS NEWS OF THE DISCOVERY OF AN IMPORTANT DEPOSIT OF URANIUM AND IRON."

8. IN CONTRAFT BOKASSA SAID THAT IN FIFTEEN YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP THE CENTRAL AFRICAN PEOPLE HAD RECEIVED ONLY TWO THINGS FROM THE SOVIET UNION -- A MOTHER/CHILD CLINIC CENTER AND "A FEW MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS". BOKASSA ASSERTED THAT "A BIG COUNTRY LIKE THE SOVIET UNION WHICH IS CONSIDERED TO BE A GREAT DEFENDER OF THE POOR CANNOT IN OUR EYES CONTENT ITSELF TO SUPPLY ARMS AND MUNITIONS TO KILL WHEN WE POOR COUNTRIES ARE DEMANDING CREDITS AND ASSISTANCE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND ROADS. WHEN IT IS A QUESTION OF IMPOSING IDEOLOGY HOWEVER THE SOVIETS ARE THERE. BUT IT IS IDEOLOGY WHICH CAN DESTROY MANKIND IN ITS ENTIRETY." RADIO ADDRESS HAS BEEN REPEATED IN FULL DURING EACH PRIME TIME NEWSCAST FOR PAST TWO DAYS.
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